

UNCLASSIFIED
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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-05 SS-15 SP-02 L-03 CIAE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 SY-05 PRS-01 SSQ-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00
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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2865
INFO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION IMMEDIATE

[REDACTED] BUENOS AIRES 7936

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SHUM, PA, AR
SUBJECT: POLITICAL DETAINEE: AMILCAR SANTUCHO

REF: ASUNCION 4318

1. EMBASSY BUENOS AIRES HAS THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION
REGARDING AMILCAR MATINO (DR LANTINO) SANTUCHO:
(A) DATE OF BIRTH: APRIL 9, 1921 IN SANTIAGO DEL
ESTERO, ARGENTINA.

(B) WIFE: MABEL NOEMI PEREA. OTHER FAMILY: SEE (F) BELOW.

(C) POLITICAL ACTIVITIES:

- PARTIDO COMUNISTA ARGENTINA (PCA) ACTIVIST IN
SANTIAGO DEL ESTERO AS OF JUNE, 1963.

- MEMBER OF PARTIDO REVOLUCIONARIO DE TRABAJADORES
(PRT) (ERP POLITICAL ACTION ARM) AS OF MARCH 1967.

- INVOLVED IN PCA FUND RAISING CAMPAIGN IN SANTIAGO
DEL ESTERO AS OF AUGUST 1968.

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ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/ITS
Margaret P. Grafeld, Director
Exemption(s):
☒ Release ☐ Excise ☐ Deny
Declassify: () In Part ☒ In Full
() Classify as () Extend as () Downgrade to
Date: _____ Declassify on: _____ Reason: _____

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- MEMBER OF PRT AS OF APRIL 1970.
- MEMBER OF PRT TERRORIST GROUP OPERATING IN TUCUMAN AS OF MAY 1970.
- MEMBER OF PRT PROVINCIAL INTERIOR COMMITTEE, SANTIAGO DEL ESTERO AS OF MAY 1970.

(D) INFORMATION REGARDING PARAGUAYAN ARREST:

SANTUCHO ARRESTED MAY 16, 1975 REPEAT 1975 BY PARAGUAYAN AUTHORITIES. A PARAGUAYAN NATIONAL NOTICED SANTUCHO'S UNUSUAL BEHAVIOR AT BORDER CROSSING POINT WHERE HE APPEARED TO BE SIGNALLING FOR A CONTACT WITH A FOLDED COPY OF ERP NEWSPAPER. PARAGUAYAN POLICE WERE INFORMED WHEN BUS ENTERED PARAGUAYAN TERRITORY AND SANTUCHO AND CHILEAN MIR MEMBER, JORGE ISAAC FUENTES, WERE LATER ARRESTED BY PARAGUAYAN AUTHORITIES. AT TIME OF ARREST SANTUCHO WAS CARRYING A FALSE ARGENTINE PASSPORT IN THE NAME OF JUAN MANUEL MONTENEGRO. HE WAS ALSO CARRYING A FALSE BOTTOM SUITCASE WHICH CONTAINED ERP DOCUMENTS AND CONTACT INFORMATION REGARDING OTHER LEFTISTS IN VARIOUS OTHER LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES. SANTUCHO AND CHILEAN MIR COMPANION, JORGE ISAAC FUENTES, WERE EVIDENTLY TRANSITING PARAGUAY FOR MEETING IN PERU OF JUNTA COORDINADOR REVOLUCIONARIO (JCR). SANTUCHO WAS PRT/ERP REPRESENTATIVE TO JCR SECRETARIAT MEETING WHICH WAS TO BE HELD IN JULY 1975 IN PERU.

(E) CONTACTS REGARDING ASYLUM:

THE MEXICAN AMBASSADOR IN PARAGUAY EXPRESSED INTEREST IN THE POSSIBILITY OF EXILING SANTUCHO TO MEXICO IN A DISCUSSION WITH PRESIDENT STROESSNER. PRESIDENT STROESSNER INDICATED TO HIS POLICE AUTHORITIES THAT HE WOULD OPPOSE SANTUCHO'S LEAVING FOR MEXICO AS HE WAS SURE THAT SANTUCHO WOULD UNDERTAKE ACTIONS ON

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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BEHALF OF THE ERP AGAIN.

THE NORWEGIAN AMBASSADOR IN BUENOS AIRES (WHO IS ALSO ACCREDITED TO PARAGUAY) CALLED ON REGIONAL LEGAL ATTACHE ON JANUARY 5, 1976 REGARDING THE GRANTING OF POLITICAL ASYLUM FOR SANTUCHO IN NORWAY.

(F) AMILCAR IS BROTHER OF MARIO SANTUCHO, FORMER ERP COMMANDER WHO WAS KILLED BY ARGENTINE SECURITY FORCES

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DURING SUMMER OF 1976.
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